

63-41356

Op-922HID3
Ser 007607P92

Rear Admiral V. L. Lowrance
Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Lowrance:

With reference to your letter of 17 May, I share your conviction that procurement of facts about various Soviet guided missile systems is essential for the development of effective electronic counter-measures. Clandestine efforts to obtain such facts are being pressed vigorously on several fronts by the Central Intelligence Agency.

In my opinion technical collection methods such as the Central Intelligence Agency's ELINT operation in have a very low probability of success. They are nevertheless being continued and may be used elsewhere as operational conditions permit.

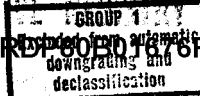
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NAVY review(s) completed.

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I note that you intend to coordinate your own operational proposals with the Central Intelligence Agency. Insofar as your own collection efforts need my assistance or that of the Central Intelligence Agency, be assured of our cooperation.

Sincerely,

for
(Signed) Marshall S. Carter
John A. McCone
Director

Signature Recommended:

Routed through and initialled by:

DD/I - RSC

DAD/OEL - CN

DD/R - HS

/s/ Richard Helms 24 May 1963

25X1 DDP/FI/ [] (24 May 1963)

25X1 /s/ []

Retyped O/ExDir to show correct rank, title and give reference:rcm

Orig & 1 - addressee

1 - DCI

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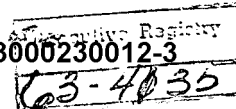
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-922HLD3/mlk
Ser 007607P92

17 MAY 1963

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Dear Mr. McCone,

Our firm information on the details of the missile guidance techniques employed by the Soviets in their air-to-surface missile systems, the coastal defense cruise missile system, and the shipboard surface-to-surface cruise missile systems is meager. Despite the efforts of the intelligence community to increase our holdings, the fact remains that our knowledge of the terminal guidance systems is far more estimative than factual. My concern in this matter has been intensified by the recent deployment of some of these missile systems to minor world powers--Cuba, Indonesia and the U.A.R.

In order to defend themselves against these missile systems, Naval operating forces are for the most part dependent upon destroying the launching platform or the missile itself. Since these systems are obviously designed for use against moving targets, we feel that they must incorporate some form of command guidance for the missile. The acquisition of firm data on these guidance systems, and the development of active electronic counter-measures systems based on these data, would substantially enhance our operating forces capabilities to defeat these missile systems.

25X1



The proliferation of these systems has multiplied the magnitude of the threat. I do not believe that the priority presently assigned to the collection of this guidance data adequately reflects the importance of our need for it. In the very near future, therefore, I will formally propose that the existing requirements on this subject be assigned a more appropriate degree of urgency.

In addition, I have directed that a number of studies be undertaken within ONI to determine if there are any other Navy collection resources which can be tasked to acquire information on these guidance systems.

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Op-922HLD3/mlk
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Some of these proposals may, if determined feasible, require collaboration and coordination with the Central Intelligence Agency. Should such be the case, I would be most grateful for any additional assistance which you and the Central Intelligence Agency would be able to extend to this collection effort.

Sincerely,

V. L. Lowrance
V. L. LOWRANCE

SECRET
NOFORN

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1	Mr. Elder for DCI info		
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<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY	<input type="checkbox"/>	PREPARE REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	DISPATCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	FILE	<input type="checkbox"/>	RETURN
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Remarks:

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Executive Director	20 May

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CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Copies sent to: Mr. Elder for DCI info
DD/I
DD/R
DD/P - Action--to coordinate
reply.

Should this not go to USIB
also - so that DIA might even
learn about it perhaps - maybe?
5/21/63

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Executive Director	20 May